

HOUSE BILL 2627

By Crawford

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 62, Chapter 2, relative to licensing requirements for the state board of examiners for architects and engineers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 62-2-102(b)(1), is amended by deleting the language "defined in the 1985 edition of the Standard Building Code" and substituting the language "defined in the International Building Code currently adopted by the state fire marshal".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 62-2-304(b), is amended by adding "or landscape architect" after "certificate of registration as an architect"; and is further amended by adding "or the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards" after "National Council of Architectural Registration Boards".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 62-2-401(a), is amended by deleting the subsection and substituting the following:

(a) The following is considered as minimum evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant is qualified for registration as an engineer:

**(1) Graduation from Approved Engineering Curriculum, Experience, and Examination.** A graduate of an engineering curriculum of four (4) years or more, approved by the board as being of satisfactory standing, after passing an examination prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying involving the fundamentals of engineering, must be admitted to an examination prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying in the principles and practice of engineering. Upon passing the

examination, and with a specific record of four (4) years or more of progressive experience on engineering projects of a grade and character that indicates to the board that the applicant may be competent to practice engineering, the applicant must be granted a certificate of registration to practice engineering in this state; provided, that the applicant is otherwise qualified;

**(2) Long Established Practice.** A graduate of an approved engineering curriculum of four (4) years or more, with a specific record of twelve (12) years or more of progressive experience on engineering projects of a grade and character that indicates to the board that the applicant may be competent to practice engineering, must be admitted to an examination prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying, in the principles and practice of engineering. Upon passing the examination, the applicant must be granted a certificate of registration to practice engineering in this state; provided, that the applicant is otherwise qualified;

**(3) Graduation from Approved Post-Graduate Engineering Curriculum, Experience, and Examination.**

(A) A graduate of a curriculum of four (4) years leading to a baccalaureate degree, approved by the board as being of satisfactory standing, accompanied with the completion of post-graduate coursework in engineering curriculum leading to a master's degree or higher in engineering approved by the board as being of satisfactory standing, after passing an examination prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying involving the fundamentals of engineering, must be admitted to an examination prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying in the principles and practice of

engineering. Upon passing the examination, and with a specific record of eight (8) years or more of progressive experience on engineering projects of a grade and character that indicates to the board that the applicant may be competent to practice engineering, the applicant must be granted a certificate of registration to practice engineering in this state; provided, that the applicant is otherwise qualified;

(B) The board shall, in its discretion, set forth further criteria in rule specifying what constitutes an acceptable four (4) year undergraduate curriculum; and

(C) The board may approve an applicant having less than eight (8) years of experience if the applicant's education and experience are that of a grade and character that indicates to the board that the applicant may be competent to practice engineering; or

**(4) Graduation from Approved Engineering Technology Curriculum, Experience, and Examination.** A graduate of an ABET ETAC accredited engineering technology curriculum of four (4) years or more, approved by the board as being of satisfactory standing; and who holds a post-graduate degree in engineering from an institution with an ABET EAC accredited undergraduate engineering program approved by the board as being of satisfactory standing; and with a specific record of eight (8) years or more of experience on engineering projects of a grade and character that indicates to the board that the applicant may be competent to practice engineering and acquired under the supervision of a licensed professional engineer; and who has passed an examination prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying involving the fundamentals of engineering, must be admitted to an examination prepared by

the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying in the principles and practice of engineering. Upon passing the examination, the applicant must be granted a certificate of registration to practice engineering in this state; provided, that the applicant is otherwise qualified.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 62-2-402, is amended by adding "or the completion of post-graduate coursework in engineering curriculum leading to a master's degree or higher in engineering or engineering technology" after "baccalaureate degree in engineering".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 62-2-802, is amended by designating the existing language as subsection (a) and adding the following language as a new subsection:

If an applicant does not hold a degree accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (L.A.A.B.), whether obtained in the United States or otherwise, that is substantially equivalent to a degree from an L.A.A.B. accredited program, the board may consider the following factors and approve the applicant in its discretion:

- (1) Evidence of having obtained the statutory minimum of acceptable practical experience in landscape architectural work; and
- (2) The receipt of at least five (5) references from individuals having knowledge of the applicant's technical competence as a landscape architect.

SECTION 6. For the purpose of promulgating rules, this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect July 1, 2022, the public welfare requiring it.